

FRIENDS OF THE BERKLEY LIBRARY

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF FBL



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Friends Weigh-in on 2018 and Look into 2019

We asked Friends to answer a few book-ish questions to round out 2018. Here's what they said:

78% of respondents chose *The Snowy Day* by Ezra Jack Keats as their favorite picture book about winter.

25% agreed that tea is the perfect companion to a good book on a cold day.

All Friends who filled out the survey said that the best programs included food!

Some books recommended by Friends set in winter include

Little Women (Alcott)

The Shining (King)

The Snow Child (Ivey)

The Long Winter (Wilder)

Winter is Coming (Johnston)

A Week in Winter (Binchy)

They'd like to see programming in 2019 about current events, genealogy, book trivia, author visits, and household hints.

Something you want to experience through the library? Email us!

December was a month of giving at the library. The library served as a donation spot for several worthy causes. We started out the giving season by collecting coats for the Oakland County Sheriff's Office. Food donations poured in for the Berkley DDA's MerriMonth food drive at the library. While we don't have a final count on what was donated, I'm confident we exceeded what was collected last year. The MOMS Club of Berkley expanded their annual diaper drive and set their goal even higher this year. And finally, we will get a slew of new items on the shelves thanks to the Giving Tree campaign that we've successfully run for several years. We're grateful to all in the community who give in support of these causes or others close to their heart. I'd like to give a special thanks to the Friends of the Berkley Public Library for their continued support. Their support enables us to offer an amazing array of programming for our patrons. As we close out 2018, we look forward to serving you and this community in 2019!

Meet the Board

Sarah Clancy, President, joined the Friends in 2017 to get more involved with the Berkley community in a space that she's loved since she was a little girl. It's a joy to spend time with others who love books. She practices yoga, enjoys trying local eateries, traveling, and visits the dog park with her husky puppy. Her niece Charlotte is her favorite reading buddy!

Vice President Amanda Rohda got involved with the Library as both a Friend and board member 5-6 years ago after being inspired by programming and her desire to continue improving the Library. The Book Sale as well as other fundraisers run smoothly because of Amanda's attention to detail and tireless efforts. She, her husband, and daughter love Berkley! They can be seen riding bikes, playing in the park, and eating ice cream at Clark's. Can you guess her favorite FBL event?

Cath Matthews-Pennanen, the FBL Treasurer, ensures your money is spent wisely, all accounted for, and budgeted for all the great Library programming. She's been a Friend since 2007ish, encouraged to join after hearing about all the good work of supporting the library as well as the fun of being in the Friends. In addition to reading, Cath loves exercise especially winter sports and spending time with her kids, grandkids, and patients as a pediatric physical therapist.

Denise McDoniel worked as a page in her local library as a high school student so when she moved to Berkley, the Friends seemed like a good way for her to get involved in the community. Denise recently got married and they have a puppy named Mac. She loves to be outside, go up north, run, and of course, read! As our secretary, she keeps minutes at meetings and writes thank you notes.

You likely read plenty of pleas for help from Colleen Smith, who coordinates volunteers for all the events we host. You can see her smiling face at the book sale, ice cream social, and bake sales, sharing her love of the Berkley community and libraries. Colleen's been involved with the Friends for 18+ years because she believes in its mission to bring people together.

.As you can see, we're a great group and we'd love to welcome you, along with other regulars, at our meetings. Please join us at the Library on the fourth Monday of the month at 7pm.



**Amanda Rhoda,
Vice President**
Lived in Berkley since 2007



Denise McDoniel, Secretary
Lived in Berkley since 2016



**Colleen Smith,
Volunteer Coordinator**
Lived in Berkley since 1990



Sarah Clancy, President
Lived in Berkley since 2011



Cath Matthews, Treasurer
Lived in Berkley since 1986

Some Fun Library Facts

in the 2017-18 Fiscal Year

- 150,004 items circulated
- 116,217 visits to the library
- 5,942 people attended 233 programs
- 925 new library cards were issued

The most checked-out book since June is
Kristin Hannah's "The Great Alone"

In this unforgettable portrait of human frailty and resilience, Kristin Hannah reveals the indomitable character of the modern American pioneer and the spirit of a vanishing Alaska.



3155 Coolidge Hwy, Berkley, MI 48072

Other Favorites read in 2018

Marbles: Mania, Depression, Michelangelo, and Me by Ellen Forney (Evelyn D.)
A Gentleman in Moscow by Amos Towles (Anna Z)
Y is for Yesterday by Sue Grafton (Barbara M)
Homegoing by Yaa Gyasi (Amanda R)
ROAR by
When Friendship Followed Me Home, Paul Griffin (Liz B)
Cutting for Stone, Abraham Verghese (Dorothy B)
Hey, Kiddo, Jarrett J. Krosoczka (Lisabeth C)
Death in the Air: The True Story of a Serial Killer, the Great London Smog, and the Strangling of a City, Kate Winkler Dawson (Carol H)
The Couple Next Door, Shari Lapena (Denise L)
Eggs by Jerry Spinelli (Rachael D)